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IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Previously Presented). A method comprising:
providing a first bus technology on a system;
dividing responsibility for a second bus technology, different from said first bus technology, between a controller integrated on said system and an external component;
determining whether the external component is coupled to said system;
if said external component is not coupled to said system, indicating that said second bus technology is not available and that said controller is non-functional; and
when said external component is coupled to said system, indicating that said second bus technology is available and linking said controller to said external component to implement said second bus technology.

2 (Original). The method of claim 1 including accessing said external component through a bus.

3 (Original). The method of claim 1 wherein accessing a configuration space includes accessing a configuration space on a controller.

4 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 3 including detecting a component external to said system from said controller.

5 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 including accessing a configuration space on said component external to said system.

6 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 5 including accessing a global unique identifier from said configuration space on said integrated component.

7 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 6 including accessing a global unique identifier from said configuration space on said component external to said system.

8 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 including implementing a capability requiring two functions, one of said functions implemented by said integrated component and the other of said functions implemented by said component external to said system.

9 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 wherein writing information includes writing information necessary for the integrated component to communicate with said component external to said system.

10 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 including providing a first function through said integrated component and providing a second function through said component external to said system and utilizing said functions to implement a wireless network capability.

11 (Previously Presented). An article comprising a medium storing instructions that enable a processor-based system to:

- provide a first bus technology on a system;
- divide responsibility for a second bus technology, different than said first bus technology, between a controller integrated on said system and an external component;
- determine whether the external component is coupled to said system;
- if said external component is not coupled to said system, indicate that said second bus technology is not available and that said controller is non-functional; and
- when said external component is coupled to said system, indicate that said second bus technology is available and linking said controller to said external component to implement said second bus technology.

12 (Original). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access said external component through a bus.

13 (Original). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access a configuration space on a controller.

14 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 13 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to detect a component external to said system from said controller.

15 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access a configuration space on said component external to said system.

16 (Previously Presented). The article claim 15 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access a global unique identifier from said configuration space on said integrated component.

17 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 16 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to access a global unique identifier from said configuration space on said component external to said system.

18 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to implement a capability requiring two functions, one of said functions implemented by said integrated component and the other of said functions implemented by said component external to said system.

19 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to write information necessary for the integrated component to communicate with said component external to said system.

20 (Previously Presented). The article of claim 11 wherein said medium stores instructions that enable a processor-based system to provide a first function through said integrated component, provide a second function through said component external to said system and utilize said functions to implement a wireless network capability.

21 (Previously Presented). A system comprising:
a processor;
a bus coupled to said processor, said bus capable of using a first and a second bus technology, said first bus technology being different than said second bus technology; and
a controller to determine whether an external component to implement said second bus technology is coupled to said system and to indicate that said second bus technology is available when said external component is coupled to said system.

22 (Previously Presented). The system of claim 21 including a mating manager to access a configuration space on said controller, detect a component external to said system having a configuration space, compare an identifier from said external component with an identifier from said configuration space and, if said identifiers match, write information into the configuration spaces of said controller and said external component.

23 (Previously Presented). The system of claim 21 wherein said controller implements a network adapter.

24 (Currently Amended). The system of claim 22 ~~[[23]]~~ wherein said controller to implement a medium access control and said component external to said system implements a physical layer.

25 (Previously Presented). The system of claim 22 wherein said external component is coupled to said system through said bus.

26 (Original). The system of claim 22 wherein said configuration space in said controller includes a global unique identifier and said configuration space on said external component includes a global unique identifier.

27 (Original). The system of claim 26 wherein said mating manager compares said global unique identifiers.